

Appendix D - Warning and Advisory Criteria

WIND

Location	Wind Advisory (NPW)	High Wind Warning (NPW)
Coastal Areas and Valleys	Sustained 30 mph (26 kt) or more and/or gusts 35 mph (30 kt) or more	Sustained 40 mph (35 kt) or more and/or gusts 58 mph (50 kt) or more
Desert and Mountains below 7000 ft	Sustained 35 mph (30 kt) or more and/or gusts 45 mph (39 kt) or more	Sustained 45 mph (39 kt) or more and/or gusts 58 mph (50 kt) or more
Mountains above 7000 ft	Sustained 45 mph (39 kt) or more and/or gusts 55 mph (48 kt) or more	Sustained 55 mph (48 kt) or more and/or gusts 75 mph (65 kt) or more

FOG

Location	Dense Fog Advisory (NPW)
Usually for 2 or more locations	Less than ½ mile visibility for any length of time

WINTER WEATHER

Location	Snow and Blowing Snow Advisory (WSW)	Heavy Snow Warning (WSW)
Mountains above 7000 ft	4-7" in 12 hours with visibilities below ½ mile in strong wind	12" in 12 hours or 18" in 24 hours
Mountains below 7000 ft (3000-7000 ft)	4-7" in 12 hours with visibilities below ½ mile in strong wind	8" in 12 hours or 12" in 24 hours
All other areas	1-4" in 12 hours with visibilities below ½ mile in strong wind	4" in 12 hours or 6" in 24 hours

Location	Wind Chill Warning (NPW)	Wind Chill Advisory (NPW)	Blizzard Warning (WSW)	Blowing Snow Advisory (WSW)
any	-20 degree wind chill	-10 to -19 degree wind chill	Sustained wind 35 mph (30 kt) or more with visibility ¼ mile or less for 3 hours or more	Widespread visibilities ½ mile or less

Location	Freezing Rain or Drizzle Advisory (WSW)	Ice Storm Warning (WSW)
any	Freezing rain or drizzle accumulations of a trace to less than 1/4"	Freezing rain or drizzle accumulations of 1/4" or more

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM – TORNADO

Location	Severe Thunderstorm Warning (SVR)	Tornado Warning (TOR)
any	Hail 3/4" or larger and/or winds 58 mph (50 kt) sustained or gusts	If tornado is sighted or if radar or other data suggest existence or formation is likely

TEMPERATURE

Location	Excessive Heat Warning (NPW)	Frost Advisory (NPW)	Freeze Warning (NPW)
Coastal Sections	Heat Index 105 degrees or more	Widespread temps from 28 to 32 degrees	Widespread temps 28 degrees or less
Valleys	Heat Index 110 degrees or more	Widespread temps from 28 to 32 degrees	Widespread temps 28 degrees or less
Apple and Yucca Valleys	Heat Index 120 degrees or more	The 1 st and 2 nd time temp is forecast to be 32 degrees or less for 2 or more consecutive hours or anytime between 1 Mar and 15 Nov	The 1 st and 2 nd time temp is forecast to be 28 degrees or less for 2 or more consecutive hours or anytime between 1 Mar and 15 Nov
Lower Deserts	Heat Index 120 degrees or more	Widespread temps from 28 to 32 degrees	Widespread temps 28 degrees or less
Mountains (> 3 kft)	Heat Index 105 degrees or more	Not issued	Not issued

MARINE

Small Craft Advisory (incl. for hazardous seas)	Gale Warning	Storm Warning
Wind 21 to 33 kt and/or combined seas 10 ft or more	Wind 34 to 47 kt	Wind 48 kt or more

These three hazards above are simply headlined in the text of the Coastal Waters Forecast (CWF)

High Surf Advisory (CFW)	Tidal Overflow Statement (CFW)
Widespread breakers of 7 ft or more. If high tides will be 5 ½ ft or more, a call to action to protect beach property is required	Tides of 7 ft or more with little or no wave or wind action. With higher wave or wind action, use Coastal Flooding products